Veteran's Service Committee Meeting Minutes

Buffalo County Veteran's Service Committee Meeting Tuesday August 8, 2023 Board of Commissioner' Board Room, Kearney, NE

Chairperson Tom McCoy called the Regular Meeting of the Buffalo County Veteran's Service Committee Meeting to order on August 8, 2023 at 4:00 P.M. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. A copy of the Open Meetings Act was made available to the public for this meeting and posted at the back of the Board Room.

Roll Call-

Committee members present were Stanley Brodine, Lisa Mitchell and Tom McCoy. Absent: Richard Bock and Robert Harpst. Also in attendance Commissioner Myron Kouba, Veteran's Service Officer Matthew Starkey, Veteran's Office Manager Linda Jones, Veteran's Office Clerk Sue Janssen and Buffalo County Office Clerk Katie VanSlyke.

Notice of Meeting-

Public Notice of this meeting was published on August 1, 2023, in the Kearney Hub and in accordance with Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes and also available on the Buffalo County Veteran Services Website.

Approval of Minutes-

The minutes of the July 11, 2023 meeting were previously provided to the committee members for their review. Moved by Brodine and seconded by Mitchell to accept the July 11, 2023 minutes. Absent: Richard Bock and Robert Harpst. Upon vote, the motion passed.

Regular Agenda-

Veteran's Office Clerk Janssen presented the application for Veteran M.S. to the Committee and discussed the request for \$756.70 (Rent and Utilities). Moved by Brodine and seconded by Mitchell to approve the requested amount. Absent: Richard Bock and Robert Harpst. Upon vote, the motion passed.

Veteran's Office Manager Jones presented the application for Veteran J.W. to the Committee and discussed the request for \$1,863.23 (Rent, Utilities and Groceries). Moved

by Mitchell and seconded by Brodine to approve the requested amount. Absent: Richard Bock and Robert Harpst. Upon vote, the motion passed.

Veteran's Office Manager Jones presented the application for Veteran S.R. to the Committee and discussed the request for \$525.00 (Worley Monument). Moved by Brodine and seconded by McCoy to approve the requested amount. Absent: Richard Bock and Robert Harpst. Upon vote, the motion passed.

Veteran's Office Manager Jones presented the application for Veteran G.B. to the Committee and discussed the request for \$1,158.83 (Rent, Utilities, Phone and Groceries). Moved by Brodine and seconded by Mitchell to approve the requested amount. Absent: Richard Bock and Robert Harpst. Upon vote, the motion passed.

Veteran's Office Manager Jones presented the application for Veteran K.H. to the Committee and discussed the request for \$428.00 (Midwest Mobility). Moved by Mitchell and seconded by Brodine to approve the requested amount. Absent: Richard Bock and Robert Harpst. Upon vote, the motion passed.

Committee members reviewed the Quarterly Report of Buffalo County Veteran's Service Office ending March 31, 2023 and June 30, 2023. The Board of Commissioners had previously accepted the Reports on August 8, 2023 and a copy is on file at the Buffalo County Clerk's Office.

Veteran's Service Officer Starkey presented the Review of Federal VA Gross Distribution of Expenditures (GDX) Report for the 2022 physical year. Committee members reviewed this information. No one else addressed the Committee.

Veteran's Service Officer Starkey presented the construction drawings for the Veteran Service Office Remodel. After discussion it was moved by Brodine and seconded by Mitchell to Accept Option 3 as the Veteran Service Office remodel construction drawing.

Veteran's Service Officer Starkey discussed options for Committee Work Session and Training. He stated that the Committee would be able to do training without the need of a public meeting but no formal decisions can be made during that time. If the Committee chose to do a Work Session/Workshop they would need to be available to the public and that again they are not able to make formal decisions. Any decisions they would like to

make would need to be in a formal meeting and Notice to be posted in the Kearney Hub. No decisions on training/ Work Sessions were made at this time.

Mileage Claims-

The Committee was informed that mileage claims could be submitted for those committee members requesting reimbursement.

Public Comment Period/ Benefits Questions and Answers-

Board Administrator, Lynn Martin sent a thank you card to the Committee to thank them for the special recognition she received in June and thanked them for allowing her to assist them in the process of hiring a new Veteran's Service Officer. Commissioner Kouba spoke to the committee thanking them for the conversations during the meeting and appreciates the thought and care each committee member put into their decisions. No one else addressed the Committee.

<u>Adjournment-</u> Moved by Mitchell and seconded by Brodine to adjourn the meeting at 4:43 P.M. Absent: Richard Bock and Robert Harpst. Upon vote, the motion passed.

Tom McCoy, Chairperson

Buffalo County Veterans Service Committee

8-10-23